

**WTVA
SIGNIFICANT TREATMENT
OF COMMUNITY ISSUES
JANUARY 1 – MARCH 31, 2005**

ISSUE: WOMEN'S HEALTH

PROGRAM: FOCUS – LOCAL – PUBLIC AFFAIRS – 1/1/05– 5:00– 5:30 P.M.

SHANNON FRYERY, SPIRIT OF WOMEN COORDINATOR WAS TODAY'S GUEST. SPIRIT OF WOMEN IS A NATIONAL PROGRAM BASED OUT OF HOSPITALS THAT PROMOTES WOMEN'S HEALTH AND WELL BEING. THIS YEAR THE LOCAL CHAPTER IS HOLDING A SPIRIT OF WOMEN GETAWAY WHICH WILL FEATURE TALKS ON STRESS, EXERCISE, PLASTIC SURGERY AND A HEART HEALTHY COOKING DEMONSTRATION. THERE WILL ALSO BE AN EXPO FOR WOMEN TO LEARN MORE ABOUT HEALTH ISSUES.

ISSUE: HOSTAGE

PROGRAM: FOCUS – LOCAL – PUBLIC AFFAIRS – 1/8/05– 5:00 – 5:30 P.M.

THOMAS HAMILL WAS CAPTURED AND HELD HOSTAGE IN IRAQ IN APRIL 2004. HE SEIZED THE OPPORTUNITY TO ESCAPE AND TALKED ABOUT HIS CAPTURE DURING THIS HALF HOUR. HE HAS ALSO WRITTEN A BOOK CALLED "ESCAPE IN IRAQ" WHICH HE IS PUBLICIZING. MR. HAMMIL IS FROM MACON, MISSISSIPPI.

ISSUE: VOLUNTEERISM

PROGRAM: FOCUS – LOCAL – PUBLIC AFFAIRS – 1/15/05 – 5:00 – 5:30 P.M.

TODAY'S TOPIC WAS THE JEFFERSON AWARDS. WE INTERVIEWED THE FINALISTS FOR THE AWARD IN THE WTVA VIEWING AREA. THEY WERE NOMINATED AND CONSIDERED AN OUTSTANDING CITIZEN OR THEY REPRESENTED A GROUP THAT HAS TRIED TO HELP PEOPLE. EACH ONE RECEIVED A JEFFERSON AWARD. THIS IS A NATIONAL EFFORT AND THE TOP WINNER FROM THIS GROUP WILL ALSO BE RECONIZED AND WILL GO TO WASHINGTON FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO COMPETE.

ISSUE: NEGLECTED ANIMALS

PROGRAM: FOCUS – LOCAL – PUBLIC AFFAIRS – 1/22/05 – 5:00 – 5:30 P.M.

SUSAN HATCHETT, DIRECTOR OF COMPASSION FIRST WAS TODAY'S GUEST. THIS GROUP HAS BEEN IN SERVICE ABOUT THREE YEARS. THEY STARTED BY RESCUING NEGLECTED DOGS AND CATS, NOW THE FOCUS IS ON NEGLECTED HORSES. THEY GO THROUGH THE JUDICIAL SYSTEM AND USUALLY SEIZE THE HORSES. THEY THEN HOUSE THEM IN A FOSTER HOME AND ASK FOR QUALIFIED RESIDENTS TO ADOPT THEM.

ISSUE: WORKFORCE TRAINING

PROGRAM: FOCUS – LOCAL – PUBLIC AFFAIRS – 1/29/05 – 5:00 – 5:30 P.M.

MEREDITH BYERS TALKED ABOUT THE WORKFORCE TRAINING ACT PASSED BY CONGRESS IN 1998. SHE TALKED ABOUT HOW IT STRENGTHENS THE LOCAL ECONOMY, FEDERAL PROGRAMS, AND HOW THE WIN JOB CENTER HELPS PEOPLE GET JOBS. THE GROUPS THREE MAIN AREAS OF INTEREST ARE: TO HELP PEOPLE OBTAIN GED DEPLOMAS, HELP TRAIN PEOPLE FOR CERTAIN JOBS, AND HELP FIND JOBS WHEN THEY ARE LOOKING FOR ANOTHER JOB.

ISSUE: BLACK HISTORY

PROGRAM: FOCUS – LOCAL – PUBLIC AFFAIRS – 2/5/05 – 5:00 – 5:30 P.M.

TODAY'S GUEST WAS VANDEAN PHILPOTT WHO IS DIRECTOR OF THE AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL SOCIETY. THIS IS BOTH A MUSEUM AND ORGANIZATION THAT WORKS WITH OTHERS TO FACILITATE AFRICAN AMERICAN AWARENESS. THEY WANT PEOPLE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE CULTURE AND HISTORY OF AFRICAN AMERICANS. THE MUSEUM IS LOCATED IN TUPELO.

ISSUE: IRAQ WAR

PROGRAM: FOCUS – LOCAL – PUBLIC AFFAIRS – 2/12/05 – 5:00 – 5:30 P.M.

CAPTAIN ROB EDWARDS HAS JUST RETURNED FROM IRAQ WHERE HE SERVED IN INTELLIGENCE. HE WAS IN FALUJAH AND ALSO HELPED PROTECT THE IRAQI PRIME MINISTER AND PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT. HE SAID THE BIGGEST PROBLEM IS THE LANGUAGE BARRIER AND SOMETIMES NOT KNOWING WHO MAY OR MAY NOT BE AN INSURGENT. HE SAID THERE WERE MANY WHO SUPPORTED AMERICAN SOLDIERS BEING THERE. ROB EDWARDS IS A DETECTIVE WITH THE TUPLEO POLICE DEPARTMENT.

ISSUE: CHARITY FUNDING

PROGRAM: FOCUS – LOCAL – PUBLIC AFFAIRS – 3/5/05 – 5:00 – 5:30 P.M.

PATTI TUCKER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE NORTHEAST MISSISSIPPI CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN RED CROSS WAS TODAY'S GUEST. MARCH IS AMERICAN RED CROSS MONTH. SHE PROVIDED INFORMATION ABOUT THE SERVICES AND ASSISTANCE DISTRIBUTED AT CERTAIN CENTERS DURING THE MONTH. SHE ALSO TALKED ABOUT FIVE STEPS TAKEN TO BE PREPARED FOR A DISASTER, AND ABOUT CLASSES THE AMERICAN RED CROSS OFFERS TO THE PUBLIC.

ISSUE: CRIME VICTIMS

PROGRAM: FOCUS – LOCAL – PUBLIC AFFAIRS – 3/19/05 – 5:00 – 5:30 P.M.

KAY BATES AND WANDA FARRIS OF SURVIVAL, INC. TALKED ABOUT ACTIVITIES DURING VICTIM'S RIGHTS WEEK. THEY TALKED ABOUT HOW SURVIVAL, INC. ASSISTS CRIME VICTIMS BY BEING THEIR EYES AND EARS IN COURT AND BY OFFERING SUPPORT THROUGH MONTHLY SUPPORT GROUP MEETINGS. WANDA SHARED HOW SHE COPEs WITH THE RAPE AND MURDER OF HER TEENAGE DAUGHTER. KAY TALKED ABOUT THE DEATH OF HER SISTER DUE TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE. BOTH WOMEN TALKED ABOUT HOW IMPORTANT IS WAS TO HAVE A PLACE TO SHARE YOUR GRIEF, ANGER, DENIAL, AND ALL THE EMOTIONS THAT ARE PRESENT WHEN SOMEONE YOU LOVE IS MURDERED.